

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SINGAP 01870 061054Z

12

ACTION ITF-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 SR-02 ORM-01 AID-20

CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

MC-02 IGA-01 INSE-00 VO-03 SCA-01 /090 W

----- 035703

O R 061015Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2487

INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

CINCPAC

USUN NY 0131

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 1870

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, VS, SN

SUBJECT: VIETNAMESE REFUGEES IN SINGAPORE

REF: SINGAPORE 1846

1. DURING MEETING WITH DCM AND NAVATT MAY 6, SECOND  
PERMSEC FOR DEFENSE TAY SEOW HUAH ADVISED THERE ARE NOW  
51 VESSELS IN SINGAPORE WATERS CONTAINING AT LEAST  
6,800 VIETNAMESE REFUGEES. HE SAID REFUGEES ON SEVERAL  
BOATS NOT YET COUNTED, AND THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER IS  
PROBABLY NOW IN EXCESS OF 7,000. HE SAID REFUGEES  
WERE BECOMING RESTIVE AND THAT GOS "WOULD DO ITS BEST"  
TO KEEP REFUGEES ANOTHER FOUR DAYS AND PREVENT THEM  
FROM LEAVING FOR SUBIC. HE EXPRESSED SOME BITTERNESS  
THAT MALAYSIANS WERE TAKING VERY LITTLE RESPONSIBILITY  
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PAGE 02 SINGAP 01870 061054Z

AND APPARENTLY ENCOURAGING BOATS TO MOVE SOUTH.

2. HE CONVEYED IMMEDIATE OFFER BY ACTING PRIME MINISTER GOH THAT U.S. TAKE CONTROL OF FIVE VIETNAMESE NAVY BOATS (TWO PATROL BOATS AND THREE LANDING CRAFT) PROVIDED U.S. ALSO ACCEPT REFUGEES ABOARD (NUMBER UNKNOWN). THESE BOATS WOULD REQUIRE CONSIDERABLE REPAIR, AND NAVATT ADVISES THAT THEY HAVE ONLY SCRAP VALUE. DCM PROMISED TO REPORT OFFER TO WASHINGTON. RECOMMEND WE DECLINE TO CONSIDER MATTER UNTIL C-130'S AND C-47 ARE RETURNED.

3. DCM USED OPPORTUNITY TO CONVEY AMBASSADOR'S STRONG RECOMMENDATION THAT REFUGEES BE ALLOWED TO COME ASHORE TEMPORARILY AND PUT IN AVAILABLE CAMPS SO THAT THEY COULD BE PROPERLY CARED FOR WHILE DETERMINATION MADE AS TO THOSE WHICH MIGHT BE ELIGIBLE TO TRAVEL TO U.S. AND THOSE WHICH COULD BE SETTLED THROUGH ICEM, UNHCR AND OTHER AGENCIES AND GOVERNMENTS. WE KNOW THAT SOME HAVE RELATIVES IN U.S. AND MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR IMMIGRANT VISAS. CANADIAN AND AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSIONS ALSO BELIEVE SOME ELIGIBLE TO IMMIGRATE THEIR COUNTRIES. TAY PROMISED TO REPORT AMBASSADOR'S RECOMMENDATION TO ACTING PRIME MINISTER GOH, BUT SAID PROHIBITIVE STUMBLING BLOCK WAS U.S. UNWILLINGNESS TO GUARANTEE THAT ALL THOSE WHO COULD NOT BE RESETTLED ELSEWHERE WOULD BE PAROLED INTO U.S.  
CRONK

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, TRAVEL CONTROLS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 MAY 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975SINGAP01870  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750158-0199  
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**Office:** ACTION ITF  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VIETNAMESE REFUGEES IN SINGAPORE  
**TAGS:** SREF, VS, SN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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